



The Big Sky



Vol. 11, No. 3

Gainesville, Florida 32601

Spring 1983

OUTDOOR ETHICS AWARDS ANNOUNCED



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Shown during a recent meeting to finalize plans for a National Outdoor Ethics Writers Award Program among fish and wildlife professionals are: left to right, Jack Lorenz, Executive Director, Izaak Walton League of America; Dick Lattimer, Executive Director, The Fred Bear Sports Club; and Michael F. O'Malley, President, Association for Conservation Information.

**FRED BEAR AND
IZAACK WALTON
ARE SPONSORS**

* * *

**AIMED AT THE
ASSOCIATION FOR
CONSERVATION
INFORMATION**

* * *

In order to encourage Outdoor Ethics coverage across the country your Fred Bear Sports Club and the Izaak Walton League of America have joined with the Association for Conservation Information in a new series of Outdoor Ethics Media Awards.

ACI is the organization of the 50 State Fish & Wildlife Department communicators—film, print and broadcast as well as additional members in other government and private groups.

The Awards will be presented annually at the ACI Convention, this year in San Francisco, in recognition of outstanding and exemplary coverage devoted to Outdoor Ethics and directed to the general public.

Entries in the television and radio categories will be judged by a panel under the direction of FBSC Executive Director Dick Lattimer; print and graphics by IWLA Executive Director Jack Lorenz. One entry per category per person will be permitted for calendar year 1982. The deadline for entries is May 1, 1983.

This linkage between the three national groups was arranged by your Fred Bear Sports Club in the best interests of the future of hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities.

BULLETIN!! MELLON FOUNDATION SUPPORTS HUNTER ETHICS PROGRAM

A three-year grant of \$150,000 by the prestigious Richard King Mellon Foundation has been announced by the Trustees of the Pittsburgh based organization to the Izaak Walton League of America. IWLA, Exxon and The Fred Bear Sports Club have been in the forefront recently in a joint program of expanding and promoting better Outdoor Ethics. The first \$50,000 portion of the grant had just been received as we went to press. More details to come.



ARCHERY STAMP

The 1982 Idaho State Bowhunter stamp by artist H. Cobb Gilbert. Done for the Idaho Department of Fish & Game and believed to be the first of its kind in the Nation. For prints, stamps and more information contact: Natural Heritage Fine Art, Ltd., P.O. Box 207, Carey, Idaho 83320. (208) 823-4364.

YEAR END UPDATE TRAGEDY IN THE EVERGLADES

A well-meaning but aborted crusade by animal lovers to save a Florida deer herd from hunters' guns, doomed the animals instead to slow, agonizing death by starvation, parasites, disease and predation.

Last year, a higher-than-normal amount of spring and early summer rainfall, in conjunction with backpumping from canals in the Lake Okeechobee area, caused most of the 2,716 square mile Florida Everglades to be under more than two feet of water.

Only 10% of the area was high enough to form islands in the flooded terrain and on these the deer herd sought refuge and sustenance. It soon became apparent to observing Florida Wildlife officers that the numbers of deer were exceeding the available food. A massive die-off was imminent.

Game officials ruled out dropping supplemental food such as hay into the area, as deer are known to either reject or sicken on newly introduced food. In addition, such an effort would have proven logistically impractical. Yet to do nothing meant death by slow starvation and disease for at least two-thirds of the herd.

By mid-June it was apparent a real crisis was developing. A meeting was held among Division of Wildlife staff biologists and it was decided to hold an emergency hunt to remove between 1500 and 2000 of the estimated 5,500 entrapped whitetails, thus thinning the herd to the point where it was more in balance with the available food.

Announcement of this plan brought animal preservationists, led by Cleveland Amory, head of the Fund for Animals group, and Jack Kassewitz, Jr. of the Miami-based National Wildlife Rescue Team, to the scene, determined to save the deer, discredit the hunters, and gain valuable publicity.

But their intrusion into a situation in which they had neither knowledge nor expertise, resulted only in far worse consequences for the suffering animals. Their efforts produced a series of legal delays and restrictions; first temporarily halting the hunt and later severely limiting it in scope.

The preservationists claimed they could rescue the entire deer herd by catching them and transporting the animals in airboats to safer ground. But their claim failed miserably and they gave up the hopeless effort after capturing only 18 deer, not all of which survived.

Altogether, the situation turned into a fiasco, with most of the preservationists more interested in some ideol-

logical point of view than in the plight of the animals. When their rescue efforts failed, they quickly and quietly abandoned the scene.

By the time Col. Robert Brantly of the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission had proof of his claim that rescue efforts were impractical (past mid-July), it was too late to hold a hunt in the northern section of the Glades—the herd was too far gone, with an estimated 1,500 deer already dead or dying from lack of nourishment, disease, stress, high waters and harassment from wild hogs. By August in that area the mortality stood at more than 60% and by September 948 dead deer had been counted, with the observed health of the remaining animals rapidly deteriorating. Long before the end of the year, literally the entire herd north of Alligator Alley had died.

In a belated two-day hunt in the southern portion of the Everglades, sportsmen harvested 723 deer. This action was proven helpful when, by August, only a 20% die-off had occurred in that area. It is hoped enough deer are now surviving there to form a reproductive nucleus for the future.

This tragic loss strongly bears out the truism that wild animals aren't just "little people in fur coats", as Amory and his followers would have us believe, and such fantasies have no place in sound wildlife management.

Charlie Kroll

GUTERMUTH RECEIVES AUDUBON MEDAL:

C. R. "Pink" Gutermuth, an internationally known wildlife conservationist for more than half a century, is the 1982 recipient of the Audubon Medal from the National Audubon Society, the Wildlife Management Institute reports.

The prestigious honor was given to Gutermuth "In recognition of a brilliant career of unequalled dedication to resource preservation and management. In appreciation of his genius for organizing needed conservation constituencies, both nationally and throughout the world. In acknowledgement of his pioneering efforts in securing constructive cooperation among resource organizations and agencies. And in gratitude for his courage when challenging, and being challenged by those who would waste or despoil nature or nature's creatures."

Gutermuth's long record of service to natural resource management includes 25 years as vice president of the Wildlife Management Institute. He also had held high offices in the World Wildlife Fund, North American Wildlife Foundation, National Rifle Association of America, Campfire Club of America and other groups.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

HUNTER NUMBERS HIGHEST EVER

The number of licensed sport hunters in the United States set a record in 1981, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. Receipts from license sales to sportsmen and women also were the highest in history.

Last year 16,638,584 sport hunters paid \$242,366,371 for licenses and permits. That is 381,510 more hunters and \$20.2 million more dollars than were recorded in 1980.

Fishing also appears to be maintaining its popularity. There were 29,277,241 licensed anglers in 1981. They paid \$212,944,873 for those licenses. Both of those tallies are record figures also.

Hunting and fishing license receipts are collected by state fish and wildlife agencies and are the major source of funding for fish and wildlife management activities at the state level.

Aside from the 1981 license fees, hunters paid \$120,887,999 that year in manufacturers' excise taxes on sporting arms, ammunition, and archery equipment which also go to state wildlife agencies for wildlife conservation. Fishermen paid \$31,943,626 in similar taxes that fund state fisheries programs.

Other sportsman contributions to wildlife conservation in 1981 include federal duck stamp sales receipts. Those funds are used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire additions to the national wildlife refuge system. Last year sportsmen and women paid \$13,465,702 for federal duck stamps, which are required for persons more than 16 years old who hunt waterfowl.

Through 1981 sportsmen and women have paid more than \$3.3 billion for state hunting licenses. They have contributed \$1.2 billion in manufacturers' excise taxes on sporting arms, ammunition, and archery equipment. They also have provided more than \$226 million in duck stamp receipts.

Over the years anglers have paid more than \$3 billion in license fees and \$393 million in excise taxes on fishing equipment.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Published for and by members of the Fred Bear Sports Club, Rural Route 4, 4600 S.W. 41st Blvd., Gainesville, Florida 32601.



Editor: Joshua Carpenter
Staff: Lori Byce, Charlie Kroll
Production: Pat Wiseman
National Director:
Dick Lattimer

Copyright 1983 the Fred Bear Sports Club
Printed in the United States of America,
Gainesville, Florida.

COMPUTERIZED HUNTER'S GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICA

COMPUTERS have been used in space, mathematics and big business for years. Now, there is a COMPUTERIZED HUNTER'S GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICA which utilizes the great speed and tremendous memory of computer technology to help the hunter plan his next hunting trip. This brand new service has been collecting millions of facts about virtually every hunting unit in every state and province in North America.

The service has collected the harvest population statistics for 30 different big game animals. With these facts the computer can tell you the top 25 White-tail deer areas in North America, or it can tell you the top areas in a particular state that you are planning to hunt. The benefits of such a service are simple; it helps a hunter plan his trip where there have been abundant populations. These statistics are available for 29 big game animals.

The computer also knows the season dates for the big game animals. So if you wanted to know where you could hunt Elk and Mule Deer together during a particular time period with your bow or your muzzleloader or any other weapon, the computer can search through all of the different states' seasons and tell you where this is possible. This saves the hunter the chore of reading several states' hunting regulations to try to find a place to hunt.

The computer is programmed to help you plan economical do-it-yourself hunts or find a guide that offers the services you desire for the price you want. The computer has the names and addresses of every registered guide in North America and is compiling a file of their locations, animals hunted, services offered and prices. The service does not charge the guides a dime, so there is no conflict of interest.

The Computerized Hunter's Guide basic idea is to get as much information as possible into a central processing center, so a hunter can plan a hunting trip with easily obtained facts. Other facts the service is filing are the names, addresses, locations and prices of most of the bush pilots in North America. The computer also knows which are the most productive trophy areas based upon the Boone and Crockett as well as the Pope and Young record books.

The computer technology makes it possible to search and compare millions of bits of information and sort out the answers to a hunter's questions. All this is done in a few minutes instead of the old fashioned way of writing to

several different states and waiting weeks for unrelated and confusing facts about isolated areas.

The service is available through a yearly subscription and fee basis. You pay \$10 for a Computer Access Key Card that gives you access to the computer plus four newsletters per year that reveal interesting facts the computer has discovered. Then you can order detailed game population reports or the guide selection service for \$15. A Bush Pilot referral service or a season selection is \$15, a trophy area search is \$10 or a topo map service is \$7.50. The Complete Hunt Information Services is \$39 and includes all of the other services.

For more information contact JIM NORTH at the COMPUTERIZED HUNTER'S GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICA, P.O. Box 287, Jefferson, OH 44047.

SMITHSONIAN DEER PROBLEM UNSOLVED:

The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee has refused preservationist's requests for \$650,000 to build a deer-proof fence and relocate wild white-tailed deer from the Smithsonian Institution's Conservation and Research Center near Front Royal, Virginia, the Wildlife Management Institute reports.

Smithsonian occupied the 3,000-acre property in the early 1970s. Until then the U.S. Department of Agriculture had used the huge fenced area for research purposes. The deer population inside the six- and eight-foot fence was controlled by USDA with public hunts. Smithsonian prohibited the hunts and the deer herd expanded to about 200 per square mile. A "normal" population of deer in that area is about 30 per square mile, according to Virginia biologists.

The Center is used by Smithsonian to grow alfalfa and orchard grass hay for feeding penned animals at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. It also is used to breed and care for exotic endangered species.

Deer now are eating the hay meant for zoo animals and have infected some of the endangered animals with internal parasites. Several of the exotics have died from deer-transmitted brainworm infections.

Smithsonian decided to hold a public hunt to reduce the overpopulation of deer. Antihunting organizations complained to Congressman Sidney Yates (Ill.), chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, and he asked Smithsonian to cancel the hunt. Smithsonian complied.

The Yates subcommittee met last week and the chairman offered an

amendment to add \$450,000 to Smithsonian's 1983 budget for building a 14-mile deer-proof fence around the Center property. He also asked the subcommittee to approve \$200,000 for Smithsonian to capture and relocate the 1,000 deer inside the fence. The subcommittee voted 5 to 2 against providing the funds. Biologists say such a relocation is impractical if not impossible.

A member of the subcommittee said later that it is wasteful to spend taxpayers' money to build such a fence when all that is needed is to let sportsmen keep the deer population at acceptable levels by hunting.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

(Editor's Note:)

Representing the American Archery Council at the federal hearing were: Robert McDowell, New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection; Dr. David Samuel, Morgantown, WV; Bill Wadsworth, Piscataway, NJ; Robert McBrayer, Huntsville, Alabama; and Ms. Maria Dennison, Washington, D.C. (Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association.) Our thanks to all of them.

POETIC JUSTICE

Justice may not always be swift, but sometimes it is poetic.

Take the case of two deer hunters checked in the woods near Rexton in the Upper Peninsula (Michigan).

The DNR reported that Conservation Officer Roger Salminen thought there was something suspicious about the men when he made a routine check early in the deer season.

The passenger in the car, parked on a woods trail, was holding a deer rifle and bolt from the bolt-action gun in one hand and a rifle cartridge in the other hand.

With the gun disabled, the hunter did not have to have it in a case. So Salminen could not cite the men, even though it appeared they might be seeking to shoot a deer from the car, (which is illegal.)

The officer proceeded down the trail and stopped about a half mile farther to check another carload of hunters. As he did so, he glanced back to see the auto he had just checked appear around a bend.

As the vehicle rolled to a stop behind the officer's car, Salminen heard a muffled shot and the hiss of air escaping from a tire.

A quick check revealed that the car was full of smoke as well as two sheepish hunters. Salminen found a bullet hole in the floor and a flat front tire.

He ticketed the driver on a charge of transporting a loaded gun in a vehicle and charged the passenger with possessing a loaded gun in a vehicle.

It is not illegal, however, to shoot one's own car.

JIM EASTON NAMED ARCHERY COMMISSIONER

LAOOC President, Peter Ueberroth, named Jim Easton as Archery Commissioner for the '84 Los Angeles Olympic Games. As Commissioner, Jim will interface with official international archery representatives, coordinate the many services contracted through the LAOOC and the City of Long Beach, assign certain archery tournament officials and design the overall layout of the range—all of the components necessary to bring about a successful international tournament.

Some facts pertaining to the archery event—

- Four days of competition to be held at El Dorado Park, Long Beach
- Approximately 35-40 countries to compete
- Seating capacity at El Dorado Park—4,000
- Olympic competition consists of two FITA rounds (FITA round is a total of 144 arrows shot from 90, 75, 50 and 30 meters for men and 70, 60, 50 and 30 meters for women)
- Current Men's World Record is 1341. Current Women's World Record is 1320
- Archery was an Olympic Sport in 1908 and 1920 and returned again in 1972, 1976 and 1980

According to Olympic representatives, there will be approximately 270 hours of national TV coverage during the two weeks of Olympic competition. Archery will be taped with highlights shown later, in delayed segments. Special slow motion and split shot filming will be utilized to most effectively highlight the various sports such as archery.

Jim will take a leave from Easton Aluminum at the beginning of 1984 to devote full time to the details of the Olympics. Ticket information and the appropriate department handling ticket sales will be announced at the beginning of 1983. We are all very proud of Jim and wish him well in the assignment.



THE Mini-PAGE

© Universal Press Syndicate

berries
nest
tracks

Wild Turkey Fact-a-roonies

feather

corn

quill

poult

acorn

The wild turkey is a very crafty bird. Although not very bright, it has strong instincts that make it very cautious. Wild turkeys can react very quickly to a threat by man.

They usually run from danger rather than fly. They can run as fast as 18 miles per hour. When forced into the air, they can zoom as fast as 55 miles per hour for short distances. They have excellent eyesight.

Wild turkeys sleep in tree-tops at night and spend their days on the ground.

Their diet includes acorns, dogwood berries, insects, corn, buds and grasses.

The female, or hen, lays from 10 to 12 eggs in the spring. It takes 27 days for them to hatch. The babies are called "poults."

When gobblers, or male turkeys, are courting, they fluff out their feathers, strut around and make loud mating calls to attract the hens. Turkeys can make sounds other than "gobble-gobble."

Wild turkeys live in flocks. Except to mate, the hens and gobblers don't mix. They usually travel separately.

The tom's head is red or pink and has no feathers. The hen's head is blue-gray and has hair-like feathers. All males and some females have beards or bristles coming out of their chests.

Indian

hunter

gobbler or tom

hen

Your Fred Bear Sports Club provided most of the information for this Mini-Page feature syndicated nationally a few weeks ago. It reached 15 million youngsters and adults in 470 newspapers. It is subtle, but if you look very closely you will see the word "Hunter" and both a gun and a bow.



NEW FRED BEAR SPORTS CAP



Deluxe camo cap with genuine leather front features Fred Bear's likeness. One size fits all. \$8.95 includes postage and handling. I would like to order _____ Deluxe Camo Cap cat. no. 8711. I have enclosed \$ _____ for _____ caps at \$8.95 ea.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: Fred Bear Sports Club
4600 SW 41st Blvd
Gainesville, FL 32601



Astronaut James Buchli and his wife Sandra Jean were recent visitors at the Fred Bear Sports Club. Buchli is in training for a future space shuttle flight.



(PHOTO ON LEFT)

FBSC Executive Director Dick Lattimer is shown making the Annual Report of the Communications Committee of the International Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies to the Director's Meeting recently at Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Shown on the right is the President of the group, Charles Fullerton, Director of the California Fish & Game Dept. IAFWA is composed of all 50 State fish & wildlife departments and relevant federal agencies.

Lawyer's Primer

Guidance for sportsmen and lawyers contesting "local action" efforts to outlaw hunting and trapping.

Sportsmen's Defense Series, Vol. II



THE WILDLIFE LEGISLATIVE FUND OF AMERICA
To protect the Heritage of the American Sportsman to hunt, to fish and to trap.

These two valuable new manuals are available for \$1 each from Rick Story, The Wildlife Legislative Fund, 50 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. (614) 221-2684. Every sportsman should be prepared to fight the anti-hunters.

Lobbying

to defeat anti-hunting, anti-trapping attacks at the county, township and municipal level— "local actions"

Sportsmen's Defense Series, Vol. I



THE WILDLIFE LEGISLATIVE FUND OF AMERICA
To protect the Heritage of the American Sportsman to hunt, to fish and to trap.

IN THIS ISSUE:
Outdoor Ethics
UPDATE
MELLON FOUNDATION
GRANT
ACI WRITER'S ETHICS
AWARDS

THE FRED BEAR SPORTS CLUB
 Rural Route 4, Gainesville, Florida 32601



GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP TO THE FRED BEAR SPORTS CLUB. INTRODUCE A FRIEND, LOVED ONE OR YOUNGSTER TO THE GREAT OUTDOORS.

It is not necessary for you to be a hunter or an archer. If you support the credo of the Fred Bear Sports Club, you are eligible for membership.

Be sure to enclose your \$5 membership fee.
PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Married _____ Single _____
 Your Age _____ Birthdate _____

Occupation _____
 No. of Children _____ Ages _____
 Years hunted with gun? _____ bow? _____
 List memberships you hold in other outdoor, conservation, hunting or sporting clubs. _____
 List your last three hunting trips (gun or bow):
 1. _____
 Date _____ State or Area _____
 Game Taken _____ Bow or Gun _____
 2. _____
 Date _____ State or Area _____
 Game Taken _____ Bow or Gun _____

3. _____
 Date _____ State or Area _____
 Game Taken _____ Bow or Gun _____
 If selected for Membership in the Fred Bear Sports Club, I pledge to protect the outdoor ecology and support the proper wildlife management of the woods, field and waters of this great land. I further pledge to uphold the State Fish and Game Laws to which I am bound, the preservation of our natural resources, the honest fulfillment of the restrictions under which I compete in all outdoor events and to follow the Rules of Fair Chase.
 Applicant's Signature _____
 Date of Application _____

FRED BEAR'S "SECRETS OF HUNTING" TAPE



HOLLYWOOD, California—During the taping of Fred Bear's "Secrets of Hunting" record. Over 60,000 copies of this popular and informative bowhunting classic were sold in the late 1960's. Shown left to right: Fred Bear and Sports-caster Curt Gowdy. 1968.

Back By Popular Demand

"Fred Bear's Secrets of Hunting" as told to popular sportscaster Curt Cowdy. Originally offered in 1968 as a long-playing record, this hunting classic full of useful tips is again available, now in tape cassette so that you can listen to it in the car on your way to the hunting territory or around your campfire in the evening. Proven tips on hunting the elusive Whitetail Deer.



Order Form

PLEASE PRINT

Your Name _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is \$ _____, please send me _____ Fred Bear "Secrets of Hunting" tapes.

SPECIAL NOTE:
PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.
SEND CHECKS OR MONEY
ORDERS ONLY. THANK YOU.

We pay all postage from Gainesville.

For orders paid in Canadian currency, please add 15%

\$4.95 each.

Florida residents add 5% sales tax.